

**WABASH HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION**  
**Meeting minutes-September 5, 2001**  
**Tippecanoe County - Bank One Building in Lafayette, IN**

**Members present**

Allen-Ron James  
Carroll-Donna Romein  
Cass-Janet Fawley  
Fountain-Ron Howard  
Huntington-Mike Mettler (alternate)  
Miami-Ken Einselen  
Parke-John Isaacs  
Sullivan-John Gettinger  
Tippecanoe-Norman (Lucky) Neiburger  
Vigo-Keith Ruble  
Wabash-C. Robert Elrod  
DOC-Marianna Weinzapfel  
INDOT-John Leckie  
DNR-Steve Morris

**Counties not represented**

Jay  
Posey  
Vermillion

**Proxies**

Adams proxy to Norman Neiburger  
Gibson proxy to Norman Neiburger  
Knox proxy to Norman Neiburger  
Warren proxy to Norman Neiburger  
Wells proxy to Ron James

**Visitors Present**

Mercedes Brugh-Little Turtle Waterway  
Dan McCain-Delphi Historic Trails and Canal  
Susan Ulrich-NICHES Land Trust  
Don Morrison-Ecologistics Limited  
Bernie Dahl-Banks of the Wabash  
Matt Coon-Purdue University

**DNR Staff Present**

Cynthia Webb-DNR Outdoor Recreation

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Lucky Neiburger called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. All attendees present introduced themselves.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JULY 11, 2001 MEETING MINUTES**

There was a suggestion made that the strategic planning session held after the regular meeting should have been mentioned in the July minutes. Otherwise, minutes approved as written.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Lucky Neiburger mentioned the Riverfest that took place on the Wabash in Tippecanoe County. Lucky suggested other members of the commission should get their communities involved in this activity and use it as a fund-raiser.

Lucky and the members of the commission thanked Don Morrison for setting up the September commission meeting.

## **COMMISSION FINANCIAL REPORT**

There is \$469.19 showing in the account. There is \$225.42 from shipping Wabash corridor brochures that will be subtracted from this.

## **BANKS OF WABASH REPORT**

Bernie Dahl reported Banks of Wabash (BOW) had a team at the Riverfest that took first place in the dragon boat races. Bernie also reported BOW had another successful walking weekend the weekend of August 11-12. The BOW newsletter will be mailed out soon. The next BOW meeting, October 17<sup>th</sup>, will be at St. Mary-of-the-Woods in Vigo County.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Budget committee**

The budget committee approved that a transfer request for the \$10,000 expense account be sent to the State Budget Agency and we are now waiting for the State Budget Agency administrative action minutes to be approved.

### **WHRC brochure inventory**

There have been 31 boxes shipped out to Indiana welcome centers and rest areas. Henryville and Pigeon Creek have been contacted and need more brochures.

### **Staff person work plan**

It was suggested a committee should be formed to develop a work plan for the Executive Director position. John Gettinger, Steve Morris, Lucky Neiburger and Marianna Weinzapfel volunteered.

### **Other business**

There was discussion about the grants application program. The grants application program will open on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001. John Gettinger suggested the committee should know how to fill out a grant application. John also suggested getting a grant for the Wabash Heritage Corridor Commission for trying to make the Wabash River a water trail. Lucky encouraged informing people in the member counties that there are grants available.

Ron Howard asked about the maintenance and upkeep of canoe access sites, who is responsible and how much support is needed. Various members suggested local groups or individuals that support the access sites could help or volunteer. Sandy Ulrich suggested it would be useful to know how canoe campsites are set-up. Also the commission questioned if DNR has a definition of canoe camps. During discussion of canoe camps, Mike Mettler suggested Mike Hoover of the Health Department be invited to be a future guest speaker.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

At this point, Steve Morris had two resumes for the executive director to present to the commission. The commission was not satisfied with the approach Steve used to find applicants. Bernie Dahl suggested using the Indiana Parks Recreation Association to advertise and to get job applicants. Don Morrison will sent information to Lucky on ways to find applicants.

### **Break/Speaker**

Doctoral student, Matt Coon from Purdue University, spoke about archeological history and issues related to the Wabash River corridor.

### **Suggestions for future speakers**

Steve Kennedy or Bob Bronson were suggested for the November meeting. Sandy Drake was suggested as a speaker for January's meeting. Mike Mettler suggested asking Mike Hoover from the Health Department to be a future speaker.

### **Letters sent/receive**

Steve informed the commission of an executive order from the governor for creation of the Indiana Heritage and Culture Council.

Steve received a letter from Jeff Lomax, requesting information on the Wabash River Corridor. Steve supplied the information requested.

### **Announcements**

The staff person work plan committee will try to meet within the next couple of weeks.

Janet Fawley announced Sept. 8-9 will be Family Arts Festival at Logansport.

Ron James announced Sept. 15-16, Johnny Appleseed Festival in Allen County.

### **Comments by visitors**

Dan McCain brought us up-to-date on progress with the Canal Interpretive Center at Delphi.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001 at Indiana State Office Building, South.  
Conference Room A.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motioned by Ron James. Seconded by Keith Ruble. Passed.